

SITUATION INFORMATION REPORT

INAUGURATION - 1969

The principal demonstration thrust by dissidents during the Inauguration and the weekend that proceeds it will be staged to protest the War in Vietnam. There will undoubtedly be representation on hand from the various student leftist organizations principally the SDS and YSA, from the hippies and the YIPPIES and of course the Negro civil rightists. All will have their axe to grind but the guiding light and most sophisticated organizers for the Inauguration protest is undoubtedly the National Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam. The Committee thinks big, has and will continue to organize, publish, and plan, feeling that the impact in the presence of mass news media will impress no one if they are unable to attract thousands to the cause of protest and disruption. The Committee thinks in terms of legal and medical requirements, the production of a counter-inaugural ball which will cost thousands of dollars to pull off, and perhaps of greatest significance, pre-planning at workshops prior to hitting the streets with placards and slogans. Press and reports of other Government agencies tend to indicate that those who travel to Washington to demonstrate will be serving the pacifist objectives of the NMC regardless of the motivation which brought them here.

Although Negro militants from Chicago, San Francisco, and other cities around the country have been reported in Washington planning sessions for the past several weeks, the strongest straws in the wind support the thesis that Negro militant groups will for the most part "cool it" during the Inauguration. Black Panthers attending the year-end National Conference of the SDS at Ann Arbor expressed the belief that serious confrontation in Washington would hurt only the black community. The Panthers were, to say the least, resentful of outsiders planning disruption in the Capital City. The Ann Arbor sentiment of the black militant movement seems to represent the nation-wide thinking. If racial trouble comes during the Inauguration it will probably be 95 percent spontaneous.

The long-range weather forecast for Washington is average normal temperatures through Monday with a chance of precipitation on Saturday and Sunday and clear on Monday. Normal high for this period is temperatures in the low 40's.

CIA could be a prominent subject for attack in printed matter (brochures, pamphlets, posters and placards) and vocally by the use of anti-Agency slogans, harangues, taunts, and obscenities. Demonstrations at some Government buildings and monuments are currently planned and other Government "targets" are subject to irrational mob determination. Headquarters being out of the way, fairly well protected and less accessible to the news media will probably escape harassment. Dissidents could stage a "spontaneous" demonstration however anywhere in the area where news media will assure publicity exposure. Since the New York underground film producer NEWSREEL is scheduled to make a documentary of the Washington Inaugural demonstrations, the NMC could probably pick their time and place to protest and arrange for publicity coverage. Since Agency employees will enjoy a three-day holiday weekend little threat to rank and file is likely. Upper echelon officials, however, particularly the Director if he attends Inaugural functions is at least as vulnerable as other administration cabinet and sub-cabinet officials. Actual reports of serious planned physical violence are few and unrealistic in concept. A delegate to the SDS Ann Arbor meeting for instance spoke of an assassination attempt of the President with a homemade rocket. Another threat was stated by a leftist student leader at Chapel Hill who spoke of disrupting the motorcade by attacking the automobiles of dignitaries principally the automobiles in which Presidents Johnson and Nixon rode. Danger to life and limb cannot be ignored completely since mob action spurred on by the criminal element, the drugged or the drunk can occur.

The plans of the NMC have remained constant for the past week or ten days. The NMC, headed principally by long-time pacifist-activist David DELLINGER and youthful but intelligent Rennard DAVIS, maintains a small staff but serves as an umbrella to coordinate and direct the mass anti-war effort of many loosely affiliated anti-war, anti-draft organizations. NMC spokesmen say that their effort is not against President-elect Nixon per se but only to direct public attention to and to solicit public sympathy against the U. S. Government Vietnam War Policy. The NMC is interested, so they

say, in a "political" confrontation only, so designed to point up the error of U. S. Government ways. They seek no militant confrontation with police authority. The NMC has appended to their list of objectives the proposition that they are also against "enslavement of black people at home," an extra-philosophical objective clearly designed to enlist the mal-content Negro to their cause.

The schedule of NMC events for the period from 17 through 20 January 1969 is as follows:

Friday, 17 January (all day) - Demonstration marshalls are to arrive at Washington and will assemble for briefings and instructions at St. Stephen of the Incarnation Church, 16th and Newton Streets, N. W.

Saturday, 18 January, 10:00 a. m. to 10:00 p. m. - Preparations for the "counter-Inauguration" will be discussed in three workshops held at the Hawthorne School, 501 "I" Street, S. W. The workshops will deal with approximately thirty-five topics and will be divided into three sections. The first section, called the program workshop will discuss topics such as: GI-organizing; High School organizing; and white racism. The second section called Educational Workshop will address the subjects: Law and Order under Nixon; Acts of Resistance; and Military Intervention. The third section will be an all-day teach-in on "The Movement."

(NOTE: These subject titles are hardly likely to engender feelings of peace and tranquility among the potential demonstrators.)

Sunday, 19 January, morning - Demonstrations are planned at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, Capitol Building, and at the South Vietnam Embassy at 11:00 a. m. **Afternoon -** The demonstrators will assemble on the Ellipse just south of the White House at 1:00 p. m. and prepare for their counter-Inaugural march. They will depart the Ellipse (probably about 2:30 p. m.), march along "E" Street, Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenue to the Supreme Court Plaza*(see footnote Page 4), just

east of the capitol. The demonstrators will hear speeches by DELLINGER, DAVIS, and others for about an hour then disperse to Union Station where buses will be waiting.

(NOTE: The destination of the buses is unknown but probably will take the marchers back to various assembly points within the city.)

Evening - Beginning at 7:00 p. m. the NMC will sponsor a counter-Inaugural Ball in a huge circus tent on the Mall.* Scheduled performers are Judy Collins, Phil Ochs and the FUGS. Admission charges are expected to cover the cost of the tent which has been rented from a Norfolk, Virginia, company.

Monday - 20 January, morning - 11:00 - NMC will organize presence along the parade route.

*At this writing, officials of the NMC and a Government negotiator, Harry VAN CLEVE, General Services Administration Counsel have not reached agreement either on the demonstration parade route or the erection of the circus tent on the Mall or for that matter anywhere in Washington. No permit to demonstrate on either the 19th or 20th has been granted to the NMC or for that matter to anyone other than the official Inaugural Committee headed by Marriott of Hot Shoppe fame.

The NMC in an early announcement stated that they would endeavor to assemble at one or two locations along the parade route so they could demonstrate en masse when the motorcade passed. Two locations prominently mentioned were the tennis courts at 3rd and Pennsylvania Avenue and the vacant lot at 9th and Pennsylvania Avenue where the FBI plans to build their new headquarters building. Since the 9th and Pennsylvania Avenue site is presently a four-story deep excavation, using it as an assembly point by the NMC or any sizeable group seems impractical hence doubtful. It is further believed that no permits will be granted for groups along the parade route or anywhere else in the city on the 20th. The NMC probably has or will abandon the quest for an officially recognized spot and instead might be expected to spread out along the route in smaller groups.

The Committee is expecting a large turn-out for their activities on the 19th which they say is their main day of protest. They have advised visiting demonstrators that they expect no physical confrontation on the 19th. Although in their pronouncement they have been a bit vague regarding possible physical confrontation on the 20th, they certainly imply that if trouble comes it will come on Monday when the Committee by demonstrating along the route will, according to DAVIS, destroy Nixon's attempt to create a show of unity.

Included in the weekend plans of the NMC is the participation in the march of GI's from fifteen military installations. Leaflets have in fact been found at Ft. Myer, Virginia, and at Ft. Meade, Maryland, advertising the anti-Inaugural activities planned by the NMC and asking for GI participation.

A call has gone out for sympathetic Washingtonians (liberal churches, dissident organizations and individuals) to make housing facilities available to out-of-town demonstrators. The Hawthorne School will probably house many of the visiting demonstrators. This school was prominent during the Poor Peoples Campaign last summer and housed a number of the participants both during and after the campaign was over. It is believed that the school was obtained to house the NMC workshops after Federal City College withdrew permission for the NMC to use their facilities. Headquarters of NMC during the Inauguration weekend (and for several weeks prior) is located at the Church of the Pilgrim, 23rd and "P" Streets, N. W. Their medical and communication center (which will be manned by

the Kent State University SDS Chapter) is at the same location.

The NMC boasts that the counter-Inaugural Ball is certain to be an "unforgettable success." The boast, if the tent goes up is probably accurate. In addition to the entertainment mentioned above (Judy Collings, Phil Ochs and the FUGS), another handbill being circulated, advertising the "Ball on the Mall" lists additional entertainment as Pigasus, and the YIPPIES plus the Children of God. "Box seats and orchestra seats - \$2.00. Outer rim and backrow seats (for Republicans, regular Democrats and such folk - \$35.00)." The Ball on the Mall is scheduled for the occasion where Jerry RUBIN (YIPPIE leader) is to in-HOG-urate Pigasus the pig.

Rennard DAVIS has announced that in order to disrupt the "Establishment Ball," identical, presumably forged, tickets would be distributed by the hundreds to Washington demonstrators.

It has been reported that members and sympathizers of the Fifth Avenue Vietnam Peace Parade Committee and the NMC plan to leave New York on January 18 in order to attend the Hawthorne School meeting. The Hawthorne School will be used as the Peace Parade Committee's center of operations. Reportedly a Washington-based anti-war group known as the Mobilization for Peace will handle sleeping arrangements for members of the New York visitors who will remain in Washington through the Inauguration ceremonies. Housing will be provided in private homes and church basements. There have been no firm commitments regarding rental of buses or trains but it has been reported that one Eric WEINBURGER representing the Peace Parade Committee has been attempting to rent thirty to seventy buses at the lowest rate available for the round trip to Washington. WEINBURGER has also inquired regarding rental of two coaches from the Pennsylvania Railroad, use of private cars and the formation of car pools is being encouraged.

Eugene GLADSTONE, Michigan coordinator of the NMC has contacted the Brooks Bus Company (believed in Detroit) inquiring as to the rental of ten buses. If rented (no firm commitment so far) the buses will leave Detroit on the 18th and return on the 20th. These ten buses could transport 400 people.

Although the SDS has not sponsored Inaugural demonstrations on a National level (details of Ann Arbor decision reported

in last week's Situation Information Report) the loose-knit nature of SDS predictably permits various chapters to take part in disruption if they wish. Since the D. C. area boasts several chapters at local universities some participation can be expected. Several weeks ago the University of Maryland chapter announced plans for a counter-Inaugural parade on the 20th (two hours after the Nixon Inauguration) wherein several groups starting from various points around the city would converge on the Capitol. Although this SDS pronouncement by the Marylanders has not been fortified in recent press or confidential source reports, neither has it been cancelled officially. A recent SDS-MDS pamphlet calls for SDS demonstrations on January 18 at George Washington University; on January 19 at the International Police Academy; and on January 20 at the South Vietnam Embassy.

On January 8 the Chicago Tribune reported that SDS leaders from six states have prepared plans in Chicago which will emphasize that a militant action at the Inauguration is crucial in order to demonstrate solidarity with the National Liberation Front and the North Vietnam Army. SDS further believes according to the Tribune report that an action on Inauguration Day will help expand their base. Many new people were attracted to SDS following the militancy at Columbia and Chicago. Maps of Washington were distributed showing parks, parade routes and Inaugural Ball sites. On January 18 plans call for movement centers to be organized by high school chapters of the SDS in Washington. The 19th, the visiting SDSers will leave the schedule opened for isolated demonstrations or cooperation with the NMC.

Early on January 20 the demonstrators will get to the parade route. Immediately after the parade they will gather directly behind the Justice Department. There, plans will be made to stage a march to the Justice Department as well as marches to the Inaugural Balls. Chicago radical groups know already where T.V. cameras will be set up. They will travel to Washington on the 17th and all plans will be firmed up on the 18th when they know how many demonstrators are on hand.

The George Washington University chapter of SDS expects to be active during the weekend and allegedly will muster some 3,000 to 5,000 demonstrators and sympathizers.

Georgetown University SDS plans are indefinite but they may try a protest at Lafayette Park.

American University SDSers plan a meeting on the 14th at which time they will decide whether or not to have a "head splitting confrontation" with the police.

An organization known as the Inaugural Anti-War Mobilization, Washington, D. C., has also produced a brochure encouraging one and all in the New York City area to join in the Inaugural protest. Their list of scheduled events coincides with activities of the NMC.

The Southern Student Organizing Committee headquartered in Nashville plans to field some of their local college chapters during the weekend. This organization which attracts little attention in the press compared with press coverage afforded other radical student groups (SDS, YSA) has been, perhaps, the most militant and threatening in their pre-Inaugural planning sessions. On the 9th of January, George Martin VLASITS, presently free on appeal after conviction and sentencing to a five-year prison term for failure to submit for induction, presided at a meeting of about forty people including members of the SSOC and the Young Socialist Alliance at Chapel Hill. The meeting was held to discuss counter-Inaugural activities and VLASITS gave a brief summary of information outlined from SSOC headquarters. VLASITS advised the group that attempts might be made along the parade route to disrupt the motorcade which would include attacks on dignitaries' autos. He stated further that demonstrators would be armed with clubs and other weapons. During subsequent interviews by the FBI, VLASITS denied knowledge of any planned violence and said his only information was that contained in SSOC literature which did say "to bring helmets if you plan to stay in Washington on Monday." Demonstrations on the 18th and 19th were to be peaceful.

An unknown number of radical students from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has been organized by one Charles MANN, the state information officer of the United Anti-War Mobilization Front and will attend and demonstrate at the Inaugural.

Duke University students are being organized for the same purpose by Mark PINSKY, a writer for the Duke Chronicle.

On December 20, 1968, the Stockholm Conference on Vietnam met in Stockholm and sent a cable to the SDS in St. Louis

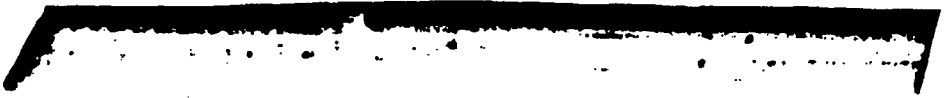
stating that the international body would send a delegation to Washington for a demonstration on January 19. The organization represents nineteen international organizations in fifty-one countries and plans its demonstration so that "Mr. Nixon, when he takes over, really will feel that there is a mighty international opposition against Johnson's War in Vietnam."

Over 10,000 troops will be on hand for Inauguration Day ceremonies. Eight thousand men will be involved in the parade and 2,000 Marines will be used as an honor guard around the Capitol and as a cordon along Pennsylvania Avenue. No additional units will be brought into Washington for use as a security force and none will be placed on special alert. An Army spokesman stated that the Army does have a contingency plan that will be used in case an emergency develops. A D.C. National Guard spokesman advised that the full strength of the guard, about 1,720 men will be used to help Metropolitan Police Department.

Also visiting in Washington over the weekend will be the usual contingent of out-of-town police detectives and sheriffs. Their selection and assignment during the Inaugural ceremonies is both traditional and political. They come to work paired with the Washington Police force in a plainclothes capacity targeted against pickpockets, con-artists, prostitutes, petty thieves and sundry other netherworld creatures expected to converge on Washington for the festivities.

Little or no information has been observed regarding the Inaugural intentions of the near and far rightist organizations. The Young Americans for Freedom, a loosely-knit conservative student organization created on the college campus in recent years to offset and counteract the forces from the left (SDS and YSA principally) has made no pronouncement. On the local level (chapters at local Universities) they can expect to be on hand but probably without sufficient organization to make their presence known. Their ability to attract activists in the past as a counter-force has been spotty. YAF's appeal just naturally cultivates the non-activist.

Commander ROCKWELL's remaining handful of American Nazis has also not been heard from. Since ROCKWELL's death little spark remains in the once active though minute band of crackpots.



It is believed that in spite of the organization and pronouncements of leftist, "peacenik," draft resister, and other various dissident groups, average patriotic people will come to Washington as they have in the past to Inaugurate the Nation's President. Although there is more mal-content activity this year than for any Inaugurations in recent memory, naturally fanned by an unpopular war, it is believed that popular support for Mr. Nixon as well as a sentimental farewell for President Johnson and a remaining basic respect for and trust in American democracy will underscore the order of the day. There will for sure be demonstrations but indications are they will fail to ignite the mass popular protest the organizers hope for.

SOURCES: Government and news media reports

RELIABILITY: Probably true

Note: Information reported in last week's Situation Information Report remains current.

The following transportation data concerning groups planning to participate in counter-insurrection demonstrations in Washington, D.C. was compiled as of 0600 hours, 15 January 1969. Asterisks indicate confirmed data. Blank spaces indicate that the information has not been received.

Date of Depart from City of origin	Date of Departure From D.C.	Point of Origin	Number of Buses	Number of Cars	Number of Persons	Sponsoring Organizations
18/19	19/20	*New York City	35	1	1750	5th Ave. Vietnam Peace Parade Comm.
19	19	*Philadelphia	10		400	SAFE
17	20	Columbus	1		35	SDS
		Hamilton, N.Y. Colgate U.			150	IMC
18		Columbia, S.C. Ft. Jackson				IMC
17		Atlanta, Ga. Ft. McPherson	2			IMC
		Richmond, Va. Ft. Lee				IMC
		Newport News, Va. Ft. Eustis				IMC

Report No.	Name of Person	Address	Number of Parts	Number of Persons	Sponsoring Organization
17	Ann Arbor, Mich.	Div. of Math.	6	30	MAC
18	Portland, Me.	1	1		United Anti-War Mobilization Front
19	Chicago, Ill.	Div. of Eng.	1		United Anti-War Mobilization Front
20	Brooklyn, N.Y.	1			SDS
21	Brooklyn, N.Y.	1			SDS
22	Brooklyn, N.Y.	1			Peace and Equal Rights Committee
23	Denver, Colo.	1			SDS
24	Brooklyn, N.Y.	1			MAC
25	Brooklyn, N.Y.	1			Brooklyn Defense Committee
26	Brooklyn, N.Y.	1			ADA

Date of Depart from City of Origin	Date of Departure From D.C.	Point of Origin	Number of Buses	Number of Cars	Number of Persons	Sponsoring Organizations
19		Pittsburgh, Pa.	1		38	Pittsburgh Peace and Freedom Comm.
17		Muncie, Ind. Ball St. Univ.			15	MS
17		Oberlin, Ohio Oberlin. Col.	2		76	SDS
17		Cleveland, Ohio Case West. Res. Univ.	1		38	MS
17		Kent, Ohio Kent St. Univ.		3		SDS

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You are cordially invited
to the Inauguration
of
Richard Milhous Nixon

January 19
**RALLY AND MARCH TO
BRING THE TROOPS HOME**
Ellipse behind the
White House
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

January 20
DEMONSTRATE
at Inaugural Route
Pennsylvania Avenue
12:00 noon - 4:00 PM

**COUNTER-INAUGURAL
BALL**
Circus Tent on Mall
7:00 PM

January 18
**MOVEMENT
CONFERENCE**
- GI Organizing -
- Women's Liberation
- Student Power -
- Black Liberation
ant
Federal City College
425 2nd Street NW
AM - 9:30 PM

National Mobilization Committee
to End the War
1029 Vermont Avenue - Rm. 605
347-6633 or 347-9600

A CALL TO COME TO WASHINGTON, D.C. - January 18, 19 & 20, 1969

On January 20th, Richard Milhous Nixon will be inaugurated in a ceremony that has traditionally symbolized the hope of Americans for a fresh start.

THE UNITY NIXON TALKS ABOUT IS EVASION

The reality of the United States is a country deeply divided. Instead of unity under Nixon, the country should be facing up to the drastic changes needed to bring about justice and peace - immediate withdrawal of troops from Vietnam, liberation of black people and a basic reorganization of the country's social priorities and goals. The Nixon cabinet, "made up basically of bankers, corporation lawyers and millionaire businessmen," (NY Times) is a threat to these goals. No wonder millions of working people are clearly suspicious of what unity would mean for them under an administration headed by Richard Nixon.

THE LAW AND ORDER NIXON TALKS ABOUT IS REPRESSION

Nixon does not intend to impose law and order on the military-industrial complex or the ruling clique in Vietnam. What kind of law and order do you think is favored by Strom Thurmond and the other racists who supported Nixon's election? Nixon's law and order means attempted repression of the growing insurgency among students, black people, teachers, young professionals, women, the poor, working people, writers and artists, GI's, veterans and the clergy.

THE PEACE NIXON TALKS ABOUT IS A HOAX

Nixon has already pledged himself to a continuation of Johnson's war policies and a drastic expansion of US militarism through a 35-billion dollar increase in the arms race and by the appointment of Henry Kissinger, a leading advocate of dependence on nuclear threat, as his chief advisor.

Join us in Washington on January 18-20. Join us with the full understanding that in the heart of winter with the possibility of snow, cold or other obstacles, it will be hard to leave the comfort of our homes, or give up our vague illusions about a new government. Join us because the price of silence at this crucial time is greater slaughter and bloodshed in Vietnam, continued oppression of black people and other groups and the melting away of hope.